

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

DECEMBER 4, 2022

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP*

adapted from Isaiah 9

Minister: Come and worship! Worship Jesus Christ the Incarnate King!

All: His Name is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Worthy is He of all praise and honor and glory and blessing!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION*

HYMN*

Once In Royal David's City | No. 225
Stanzas 1, 2 and 4

IRBY

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild; Jesus Christ, her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall:
With the poor and mean and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above,
And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

a responsive reading adapted from Numbers 24.15-19

Minister: "The prophecy of Balaam son of Beor, the prophecy of one whose eye sees clearly,

All: The prophecy of one who hears the words of God, who has knowledge from the Most High,

Minister: Who sees a vision from the Almighty, who bows down, and whose eyes are opened.

All: "I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near. A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel. It will crush Moab, but Israel will grow strong. A ruler will come from Jacob."

SONG OF PRAISE

Joy Has Dawned

GETTY AND TOWNEND

Joy has dawned upon the world, promised from creation:
God's salvation now unfurled, hope for ev'ry nation.
Not with fanfares from above, not with scenes of glory,
But a humble gift of love: Jesus born of Mary.

Sounds of wonder fill the sky with the songs of angels,
As the mighty Prince of Life shelters in a stable.
Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in darkness,
Cling now to a mother's breast, vuln'erable and helpless.

Shepherds bow before the Lamb, gazing at the glory;
Gifts of men from distant lands prophesy the story.
Gold, a King is born today; incense, God is with us,
Myrrh, His death will make a way, and by His blood He'll win us.

Son of Adam, Son of Heaven, given as a ransom;
Reconciling God and man, Christ, our mighty champion!
What a Savior! What a Friend! What a glorious myst'ry!
Once a babe in Bethlehem, now the Lord of hist'ry.

PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN

adapted from the Valley of Vision "Man of Nothing"

Minister: Let us confess our sins before our righteous and holy God.

All: Heavenly Father, when you would guide me, I control myself. When you would be sovereign, I rule myself. When you would take care of me, I satisfy myself. And when I should depend on your provision, I supply myself. Convince me that I cannot be my own God, or bring myself true fulfillment, nor be my own Christ to restore my joy. Father, hear my prayer and forgive me for the sake of Jesus. In His matchless name, we pray. Amen.

PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Psalms 32:5

I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I did not hide. I said, "I will confess my transgression to the Lord. And You did forgive the guilt of my sin."

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Rosalyn Aria Pocta

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Children's Time

After the intercessory prayer, children in kindergarten through 3rd grade and their teachers may exit the sanctuary through the north doors of the sanctuary. Teachers will return with the children after the sermon. Parents may meet them by the north entrance, or children may join their parents at their seats.

SCRIPTURE READING*

Micah 5.1-5

¹ Now muster your troops, O daughter of troops;
siege is laid against us;
with a rod they strike the judge of Israel
on the cheek.

² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
from ancient days.

³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴ And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth.

⁵ And he shall be their peace.

SERMON

Humble Beginnings

Rev. Chris Bennett

HYMN OF RESPONSE*

O Little Town of Bethlehem | No. 201

St. Louis

Stanzas 1, 3, 4

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see the lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S TABLE

All those who trust in Christ alone for their salvation, are baptized, and belong to a Bible believing church are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper together, feeding on the grace of God by faith. If you have not put your trust in Christ, please allow the elements to pass you by and take this opportunity to meditate on the meaning of the Gospel.

A word to parents: *Baptized children are invited to the table after they have made a profession of faith and been received as communing members by the Session of the church to which their parents belong.*

*Please hold the bread, and we will partake together. Please drink the cup as you receive it.
The outer ring is grape juice and the inner rings are wine.*

During the bread
From the Squalor of a Borrowed Stable

IMMANUEL

From the squalor of a borrowed stable, by the Spirit and a virgin's faith;
To the anguish and the shame of scandal came the Savior of the human race!
But the skies were filled with the praise of heav'n, shepherds listen as the angels tell
Of the Gift of God come down to man at the dawning of Immanuel.

King of heaven now the Friend of sinners, humble servant in the Father's hands,
Filled with power and the Holy Spirit, filled with mercy for the broken man.
Yes, He walked my road and He felt my pain, joys and sorrows that I know so well;
Yet His righteous steps give me hope again—I will follow my Immanuel!

Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal, He was lifted on a cruel cross;
He was punished for a world's transgressions, He was suffering to save the lost.
He fights for breath, He fights for me, loosing sinners from the claims of hell;
And with a shout our souls set free—death defeated by Immanuel!

Now He's standing in the place of honor, crowned with glory on the highest throne,
Interceding for His own beloved till His Father calls to bring them home!
Then the skies will part as the trumpet sounds hope of heaven or the fear of hell;
But the Bride will run to her Lover's arms, giving glory to Immanuel!

During the cup
Instrumental

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CLOSING HYMN*

Joy to the World | No. 195
Stanzas 1, 3 and 4

ANTIOCH

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.

BENEDICTION*

Numbers 6:24-26

Minister: The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

SERMON NOTES

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Opportunity to Tour Israel

There is an upcoming opportunity to join Park Cities Presbyterian Church on a trip to Israel. The dates are April 25 - May 7, 2023, and registration is due by December 15. For more information, including the itinerary, costs and tour leaders, please go to this website: www.morningstartours.com/pcp1334/.

Christmas Eve Service

Our Christmas Eve service will be at 4 p.m. Childcare will not be provided as this is a family service.

Worship on Christmas Morning

Christmas Day is on a Sunday this year! Our worship service will be a little later that morning, beginning at 11 a.m. Childcare will be provided for infants through preschoolers, but there will not be a lesson during the sermon for kindergarteners through third graders.

Church Offering

We have two white offering boxes in the lobby outside the sanctuary, one on each of the gray tables. Our hope is that these boxes will provide a place for you and your family to thoughtfully, cheerfully and discreetly bring your offerings to worship on Sunday mornings. If you have been giving online through our church's website or mailing a check to the office, please feel free to continue doing so if that is your preference.

Weekly Update

If you would like to receive our weekly email that includes announcements, information about Bible studies, and details about upcoming events, please email office@providencedallas.com. We would be happy to include you!

Yesenia Campos, violin

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PROVIDENCE
Presbyterian Church

Ruling Elders

Graham Averitt	Jeff Crow	Tom McCabe
Wes Boyd	John Heath	
Michael Breed	Joshua Kipp	

Deacons

Dan Bowers	Jack Mechem	David Sibley
Teddy Chu	Casey Plummer	
T.J. Edwards	Will Schoellkopf	